also the correct dosages to the applied are prescribed on the leaflets accompanying the pesticide container in three languages including Regional language, for the benefit of farmers to follow the prescribed instructions for use of pesticides.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Loss of foodgrains in F.C.I. godowns

2905. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total quantity of foodgrains in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India by the end of 1986;

(b) what was the quantity of foodgrains demaged during the year 1986;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to use this damaged foodgrains for the feeding of cattle in the drought affected states; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, whether Government propose to take any steps in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) As on 31-12-1986 the Food Corporation of India had a total quantity of 164.37 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in its godowns.

(b) During 1986 about 0.69 lakh tonnes of foodgrains got damaged during storage and transportation due to factors beyond human control such as rains, floods and cyclone etc.

(c) and (d) There is no specific proposal in this regard. However, such damaged foodgrains can also be used as cattle feed depending upon extent and nature of damage.

Reclamation of Alkaline Land

2906. DR. H. P SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total acreage of alkaline land in the country and how much of it can be reclaimed for agriculture or forestry;

(b) whether any satisfactory agronomic technology has evolved for such reclamation;

(c) what are Government's long term and short term goals to implement such technology; and

(d) what would be the likely cost and benefits of such a reclamation effort?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) It is estimated that about 2.5 million hectares of land suffers from alkanity in the country. However, no detailed surveys have been conducted to identify such lands in different States. Most of the alkali land can be reclaimed for crop production & forestry except some very stoney or undulating lands.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Reclamation of Alkali Soils in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. Besides this, the State Govts. of Haryana, Punjab and U. P. have set up Land Reclamation Corporations to implement this technology.

(d) On an average cost of reclamation works out to Rs. 10,700 per hectare. By adoption of recommended technology the yield of rice and wheat is increased and the cost of reclamation is recovered within two-three years.